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International drug control

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International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome[2] addressing the world drug problem, its resolution 60/178 of 16 December 2005 and its other previous resolutions,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[3] and the importance of meeting the objectives targeted for 2008,

Reaffirming also the joint ministerial statement adopted at the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[4] the Action Plan[5] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[6] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[7]

Gravely concerned that, despite continued increased efforts by States, relevant organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the drug problem

[1] See resolution 55/2.
[2] See resolution 60/1.
[3] Resolution S-20/2, annex.
[4] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 8* (E/2003/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C; see also A/58/124, sect. II.A.
[5] Resolution 54/132, annex.
[6] Resolution S-20/3, annex.
[7] Resolution S-20/4 E.

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continues to constitute a serious threat to public health and safety and the well-being of humanity, in particular children and young people, and to the national security and sovereignty of States, and that it undermines socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development,

Concerned by the serious challenges and threats posed by the continuing links between illicit drug trafficking and terrorism and other national and transnational criminal activities and transnational criminal networks, inter alia, trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, money-laundering, financing of terrorism, corruption, trafficking in arms and trafficking in chemical precursors, and reaffirming that strong and effective international cooperation is needed to counter these threats,

Bearing in mind that the ten-year assessment of the implementation by Member States of the goals and targets of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly is scheduled for 2008 and looking forward to its outcome,

Taking note with concern of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Afghanistan Opium Survey, 2006", which emphasized that the cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs had significantly increased and threatened the security and stability of that country and had negative regional and international implications, taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/32 of 27 July 2006, entitled "Support for the National Drug Control Strategy of the Government of Afghanistan", welcoming the ongoing efforts of Afghanistan in the fight against narcotics, and calling upon the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to intensify those efforts in the framework of the Afghanistan Compact,[8]

Recognizing that international cooperation in countering drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts, and expressing its appreciation for the initiatives in this regard,

Bearing in mind the important role that civil society, including non-governmental organizations, plays in combating the drug problem,

Taking note of the thematic debate on alternative development as an important drug control strategy and establishing alternative development as a cross-cutting issue, held by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-ninth session,[9]

1. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requires an integrated and balanced approach and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

[8] S/2006/90, annex.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 8* (E/2006/28), chap. II.

2. *Also reaffirms* that there shall be a balanced approach between demand reduction and supply reduction, each reinforcing the other, in an integrated approach to solving the drug problem;

3. *Urges* States that have not done so, to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement all the provisions of, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[10] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[11] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[12]

4. *Invites* all States, as a matter of priority, to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to fully implement, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[13] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[14] in order to counter comprehensively the transnational criminal activities that are related to illicit drug trafficking;

5. *Urges* all States to promote and implement the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, as well as the outcome of the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and to implement the Action Plan[5] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[6] and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs in their population;

6. *Calls upon* States and other relevant actors to evaluate progress made since 1998, towards meeting, in their respective areas of concern, the goals and targets set at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;

7. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen their efforts to achieve the goals set for 2008 at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, by:

(a) Promoting international initiatives in order to eliminate or reduce significantly the manufacture, marketing and trafficking of illicit drugs and other illicit psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors and money-laundering;

(b) Achieving significant and measurable results in the field of demand reduction, including through prevention and treatment strategies and programmes to reduce drug use;

8. *Urges* Member States to fulfil their reporting obligations on the follow-up action to implement the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem and to report fully on all measures agreed upon at the special session;

9. *Encourages* States to consider consulting and working with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in developing, implementing and evaluating policies and programmes, in particular those related to demand reduction and prevention of drug abuse, and to consider cooperating with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in alternative development programmes;

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[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[11] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[12] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[13] Resolution 55/25, annexes I-III, and resolution 55/255, annex.
[14] Resolution 58/4, annex.

10. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs in their population, in particular among children and young people;

11. *Calls upon* States and organizations with expertise in community capacity-building to provide, as needed, access to treatment, health care and social services for drug users, in particular those living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases, and to extend support to States requiring such expertise, consistent with the international drug control treaties;

12. *Urges* States, in order to achieve a significant and measurable reduction of drug abuse by 2008:

(a) To further implement comprehensive demand reduction policies and programmes, including research, covering all the drugs under international control, in order to raise public awareness of the drug problem, paying special attention to prevention and education and providing, especially to young people and others at risk, information on developing life skills, making healthy choices and engaging in drug-free activities;

(b) To further develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, including risk reduction activities, under the supervision of competent health authorities, that are in line with sound medical practice and the international drug control treaties and that reduce the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse, and to provide a wide range of comprehensive services for the treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug abusers, with appropriate resources being devoted to such services, since social exclusion constitutes an important risk factor for drug abuse;

(c) To enhance early intervention programmes that dissuade children and young people from using illicit drugs, including, inter alia, polydrug use and the recreational use of substances such as cannabis and synthetic drugs, especially amphetamine-type stimulants, and to encourage the active participation of the younger generation and their families in campaigns against drug abuse;

(d) To consider strengthening and implementing broadly based prevention and treatment programmes and to ensure that such programmes adequately address the gender-specific barriers that limit access for young girls and women, taking into account all attendant circumstances, including social and clinical histories, in the context of education, the family and the community, as appropriate;

13. *Reaffirms* the need for a comprehensive approach to the elimination of illicit narcotic crops in line with the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;[7]

14. *Invites* States to continue to strengthen their efforts to implement innovative alternative programmes, inter alia, in reforestation, agriculture and small and medium enterprises, and stresses the importance of the United Nations system and the international community's contributing to the economic and social development of the communities that benefit from such programmes;

15. *Calls for* a comprehensive approach integrating alternative development programmes, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development, into

wider economic and social development programmes, with the support of a deeper international cooperation and the participation of the private sector, as appropriate;

16. *Invites* States to consider adjusting their drug control strategies, taking into account, inter alia, the results of the annual surveys by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of illicit crop cultivation;

17. *Calls upon* Member States and national and international development organizations to increase their efforts to empower local communities and authorities in project areas and to enhance their participation in the decision-making process in order to increase their ownership of the development measures undertaken in accordance with national legislation and the sustainability of those measures and to create law-abiding and prosperous rural society;

18. *Encourages* States to establish or strengthen mechanisms and procedures to ensure strict control of substances used to manufacture illicit drugs, to support international operations aimed at preventing their diversion, including through coordination and cooperation between regulatory and enforcement services involved in precursor control, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, and to counter smuggling networks effectively, particularly in source and transit countries, by conducting, inter alia, backtracking law enforcement investigations;

19. *Urges* all States and relevant international organizations to cooperate closely with the International Narcotics Control Board, in particular in Project Cohesion and Project Prism, in order to enhance the success of those international initiatives and to initiate, where appropriate, investigations by their law enforcement authorities into seizures and cases involving the diversion or smuggling of precursors and essential equipment, with a view to tracking them back to the source of diversion in order to prevent continuing illicit activity;

20. *Reaffirms* that preventing the diversion of precursors from legitimate commerce to illicit drugs manufacture is an essential component of the comprehensive strategy against drug abuse and trafficking, which requires the effective cooperation of exporting, importing and transit States, and calls upon all States to adopt and implement measures to prevent the diversion of precursors to illicit drug manufacture, in cooperation with competent international and regional bodies, in particular the International Narcotics Control Board, and, if necessary and to the extent possible, with the private sector of each State, in accordance with the objectives targeted for 2008 in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[3] and the resolution on the control of precursors also adopted at the special session;[15]

21. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that adequate mechanisms are in place, where necessary and to the extent possible, to prevent the diversion of preparations containing substances listed in tables I and II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, pertaining to illicit drug manufacture, in particular those containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine, that could be easily used or recovered by readily applicable means;

22. *Stresses* that international cooperation on domestic precursor policies and practices would assist in complementing existing law enforcement cooperative

[15] Resolution S-20/4 B.

initiatives, and encourages States to cooperate at the regional level on measures to prevent and control the domestic diversion of precursors, drawing on best practices and sharing experiences;

23. *Invites* Member States to continue to share information on illicit synthetic drugs and other emerging substances of abuse with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities, at all levels, in order to prevent and combat illicit drug trafficking and to share and promote best operational practices, in order to interdict illicit drug trafficking, including by establishing and strengthening regional mechanisms, providing technical assistance and establishing effective methods for cooperation, in particular in the areas of air, maritime, port and border control and in the implementation of extradition treaties, while respecting international human rights obligations;

25. *Urges* Member States, consistent with their legal systems, to cooperate with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement action in relation to the use of the Internet to combat drug-related crime;

26. *Stresses* that data collection, analysis and evaluation of the results of ongoing national and international policies and programmes aimed at eliminating and reducing demand and supply are essential tools for further developing sound, evidence-based drug control strategies, and therefore encourages Member States to further develop and institutionalize monitoring and evaluation tools and to utilize existing available data, including from drug testing laboratories, research centres and other sources, as appropriate, and to exchange and share information, to the extent possible, at all levels;

27. *Urges* States to strengthen action, in particular international cooperation and technical assistance aimed at preventing and combating the laundering of proceeds derived from drug trafficking and related criminal activities, with the support of the United Nations system, international institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, as well as regional development banks and, where appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and similarly styled regional bodies, to develop and strengthen comprehensive international regimes to combat money-laundering and its possible links with organized crime and the financing of terrorism, and to improve information-sharing among financial institutions and agencies in charge of preventing and detecting the laundering of those proceeds;

28. *Calls upon* States to consider including provisions in their national drug control plans for the establishment of national networks to enhance their respective capabilities to prevent, monitor, control and suppress serious offences connected with money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, to counter in general all acts of transnational organized crime and to supplement existing regional and international networks dealing with money-laundering;

29. *Reaffirms its resolve* to continue to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control, in particular the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to enable them to fulfil their mandates;

30. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the global coordinating body in international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue their useful work on the control of precursors, and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

31. *Notes* that the International Narcotics Control Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, including those that will enable it to perform effectively its task within the framework of Project Cohesion and Project Prism, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and calls for enhanced cooperation and understanding between Member States and the Board in order to enable it to implement all its mandates under the international drug control conventions;

32. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against drug trafficking, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close or allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in combating the world drug problem;

33. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against drug trafficking when deciding to close or allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective support level in those areas;

34. *Welcomes* the [efforts] work carried out by [of] the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in implementing its mandate, and requests the Office to continue:

(a) To strengthen a constructive and effective dialogue with Member States and also to ensure continued improvement in management, so as to contribute to enhanced and sustainable programme delivery and further encourage the Executive Director to maximize the effectiveness of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, inter alia, through the full implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions, in particular the recommendations contained therein;

(b) To strengthen cooperation with Member States and with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies, as well as relevant regional organizations and agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, upon request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;

(c) To increase its assistance, within the available voluntary resources, to countries that are deploying efforts to reduce illicit crop cultivation by, in particular,

adopting alternative development programmes, and incorporating them into wider economic and social development programmes, and to explore new and innovative funding mechanisms;

(d) To allocate, while keeping the balance between supply and demand reduction programmes, adequate resources to allow it to fulfil its role in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and support countries, upon their request, in further continuing to develop and implement drug demand reduction policies;

(e) To take into account the outcome of the twentieth special session, to include in its report on [the] illicit [traffic in drugs] drug trafficking, an updated, objective and comprehensive assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to address all aspects of the drug problem;

(f) To engage, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, with national and regional experts from all geographical regions, as well as experts from relevant international organizations in the field of drug control, on the collection and use of complementary drug-related data and expertise to support the global assessment by Member States of the implementation of the declarations and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session;

(g) To publish the *World Drug Report*, with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem, and to seek additional extrabudgetary resources for its publication in all the official languages;

(h) To provide technical assistance, from available voluntary contributions for that purpose, to those States identified by relevant international bodies as the most affected by the transit of drugs, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support;

(i) To provide assistance to Member States requesting support in establishing or strengthening scientific and forensic capabilities, and to promote the integration of scientific support to national, regional and international drug control frameworks, legislation and practices;

(j) To provide legal advisory services to Member States, upon request, in support of their implementation of the international drug control conventions;

(k) To share information with Member States on the work carried out towards the assessment of the implementation of the goals and targets of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;

(l) To report annually to the General Assembly on the work of the Office in connection with the areas mentioned in the present paragraph;

35. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities, within its mandates, and recommends that a sufficient share of the regular budget of the United Nations be allocated to the

Office to enable it to carry out its mandates and to work towards securing assured and predictable funding;

36. *Encourages* the meetings of the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation;

37. *Welcomes* the outcome of the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan, organized by the Government of the Russian Federation in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and held in Moscow from 26 to 28 June 2006,[16] in continuance of the Paris Pact initiative, and calls upon States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter the threat to the international community posed by the illicit production and trafficking of drugs originating in Afghanistan and continue to take concerted measures in the framework of the Paris Pact;

38. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream drug control issues into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

39 *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[17] and, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

[16] A/61/208-S/2006/598, annex.

[17] A/61/221.